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Letter dated 19 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the commentary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the illegal visit of the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, on 19 August 2016 to the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine (see annex).

I would appreciate your having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34 (b), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 19 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Commentary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the illegal visit of the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, to the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine expresses its strong protest against the visit by the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, to the Ukrainian territories on 19 August 2016 that was not coordinated with the Ukrainian side.

Yet another visit by a Russian official to the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which is an integral part of Ukraine, proves the continuous neglect by the Russian Federation of the Charter of the United Nations, General Assembly resolution 68/262, entitled "Territorial integrity of Ukraine", the Baku Declaration as well resolutions of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other principles and norms of international law.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine has repeatedly emphasized the inadmissibility of uncoordinated visits by Russian officials to the sovereign territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, which includes the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol. Attempts by the Russian officials to interpret these "trips" to Ukraine as "domestic visits" are null and void.